Mum, tell me a story

THE FAT CHICK & OTHER STORIES

Author: Sahar El-Sadek
Drawing by: Niveen Hamed
Graphic by:
Salma Mohamed Fahmy
Translate: Lamia A. El-Gharib

EL-SADEK, SAHAR
THE FAT CHICK & OTHER STORIES - Sahar El-Sadek.
(CAIRO: Yanabea, 2014) .
P.; CM.(Mum, tell me a story)
ISBN:978-977-498-222-4
1- CHILDREN'S STORIES, ENGLISH
2- CHILDREN'S LITERATURE, ENGLISH
Address: 11 Eltobgi st. El dokki-Giza
13321\2014

The Shepherd's Daughter

One day, the king went out to watch over his kingdom. He was disguised so as not to be known by anyone. He came to a green meadow. There, he saw a girl looking after some sheep.



The girl looked very poor. He came near her and told her that he was a merchant coming from far away. She gave him her food to eat. He, then, offered to buy one of the sheep in return of a bag full of gold. She told him that the sheep were not hers. They were owned by a merchant. She was looking after them instead of her father who was ill. The king smiled and offered her a diamond necklace. He told her that there were a lot of sheep and their owner would not notice that one is missing. The girl became very angry. She took the sheep and went away. The king went back to his palace. He ordered his soldiers to bring him the girl and her father. He married her to the prince and made her father, his minister.

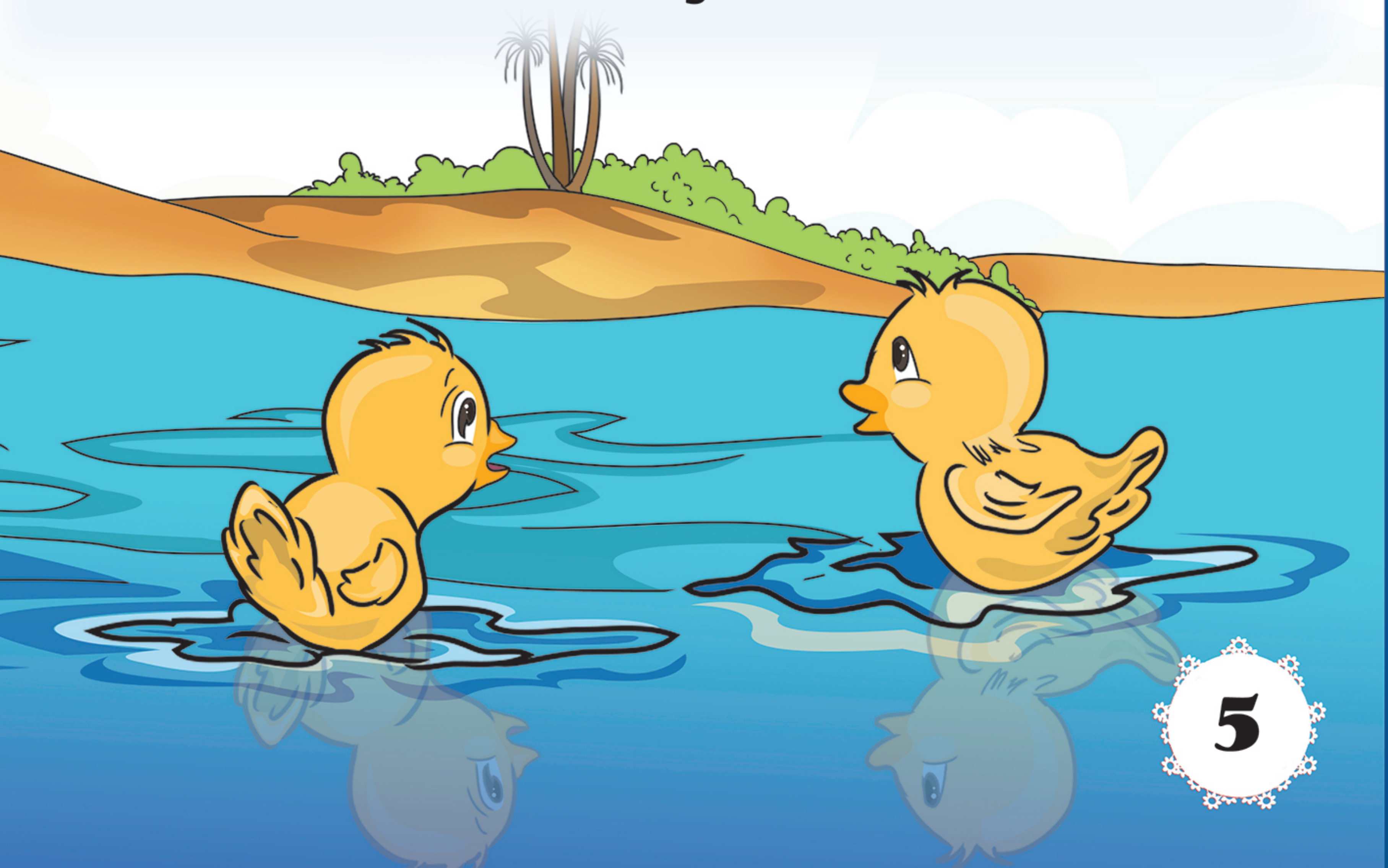


The Duck's Guard

The duck was walking along the lake when she saw an egg on the sand. She thought that it was one of her eggs. She rolled it over the sand and put it beside the rest of her eggs.



The duck lay over her eggs until they hatched and the baby ducks came out of them. All the eggs hatched except the strange egg.
The duck was surprised. The duck lay on the strange egg until it hatched. Baby crocodile came out of it. The duck was frightened and she moved away from him the crocodile thought that the duck was his mother and he ran to her. She pitied him and brought him up with her young ducks. When the crocodile grew up he went with the rest of the crocodiles. But he never forgot his family of ducks. He used to come to them and take them on his back to the inside of the lake. If they faced any danger he would come quickly to protect them. So, He was called 'The ducks' guard'.





The Sad Tree

The tree was standing alone in the garden. It was very sad because it had no fruits. It felt lonely and useless. One day, the owner of the garden cut off the tree and took it to the factory where it was cut into wood logs. The owner of the garden made a small swing from these wood logs. He put it in the garden. The children gathered happily around the swing to play with it. Among the children, there was a little child crying. The little child laughed happily when he got on the swing. The wood of the tree was very happy and it smiled. It knew its use. Since then, it had a lot of young friends.





The Fat Chick

The fat chick was eating all the time. He liked food very much. One day, all the chicks came out of the barn. They were playing and running while the fat chick was picking food on the ground. The sly fox was behind the tree. His mouth watered while watching the fat chick. He wanted to catch the chick. He thought for some time then he ran quickly. He put some wheat grains in his mouth and scattered them along the way before the chick. Without thinking the chick hurried picking the grains until he reached the tree. The fox was waiting for him there. The fat chick was frightened and tried to run away but he was too fat to run. He cried loudly. The cock heard him and came quickly to safe him. The fox ran away. The chick learned a lesson and he didn't eat too much again.





The Feast Gift

On the feast day, all the children went out wearing their new clothes. They were all happy except one girl. She was very sad as her clothes were old and her shoes were torn. The children made fun of her and refused to play with her. She sat far from the children watching them. Suddenly, she saw a cat shivering. The cat was so cold. She took off the shawl around her neck and covered the cat with it, then, she went back home. While she was sitting with her parents by the fireplace, someone knocked at the door. Her father opened the door but no one was there. He only found a box wrapped with the girl's shawl and written on it "The feast gift". Inside the box, there were a woolen shawl, a new dress and a beautiful pair of shoes made of glass. The girl was very happy and she went out to celebrate the feast after wearing her new clothes, the feast gift.





The Sweet Seller

Once upon a time, there was a king living in a big palce with a high fence and surrounded by beautiful green gardens. The king was not happy. He felt lonely because he had no friends. One day, he felt bored so he took his horse and went out. When the people saw him they feared him and went away. This made him sadder. Sudddenly, he saw some children gathering around a sweet seller. The children were laughing happily though The sweet seller, was poor he seemed very happy. The king looked at the man and thought for some time. The next day, the king disguised as a poor sweet seller. to know why the sweet seller was happy. The king called out, the children gathered around Him. The king felt very happy and he decided to open the gates of his palce for the people of his kingdom, specially, children. He gave them food and sweets. He was very happy and he never felt lonly.





The Queen Of Ice

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful kingdom with vast green lands but it was ruled by an evil queen. One day the queen felt bored, so she took her carriage and went around her kingdom holding her magic wand. She pointed it to everything she met in her way changing it into ice. The people were afraid and they were running away from her. She didn't stop until she had changed the whole kingdom into white ice. Only she and her cat were left. After some time, her cat felt hungry. She didn't find anything to eat so she jumped over the wand to eat it. The queen pulled it away harshly. The wand was broken into two pieces and the queen and her cat were changed into ice the kingdom became green and beautiful again and all the people lived happily ever after.



Glossary

<u>The shepherd's daughter:</u>

Disguise: to change one's appearance in order to hide one's own reality.

Meadows: a large piece of land in which green grass grows. Animals such as goats and sheep feed on this grass.

<u>The ducks' guard:</u>

Alake: a large area full of water and surrounded by land from all sides.

<u>The fat chick:</u>

Barn: a place surrounded by wood, wire or trees where cattle and poultry are kept so as not to run away. This place protects the animals from cold and hot weather as well as wild animals.

<u>The feast gift:</u>

Fireplace or an electric heater: a device that makes us warm and protects us from cold by using coal (in the past) or electricity (at present)

<u>The sweet seller:</u>

Palace: a high luxurious building surrounded by high fence. It has plenty of rooms and gates. The ruler (King or prince) of a country live in it.

<u>The Queen of Ice:</u>

Kingdom: a place where many people live and ruled by a man called a king; his wife is called a queen.

Ice: Hard crystals or glass like pieces formed when water is exposed to very cold temperature.